

Contributions

DOING GOOD

S. B. GRISSO

There are trees which impoverish the ground upon which they grow, while others enrich the soil upon which it feeds. So there are men who are equally the same, some have hearts which are cold, selfish, indifferent, who love none but himself. While on the other hand some in whom is manifested that character which enables them to respect all, love all, and seek all opportunity of doing good. Poverty is to be pitied but a selfish heart is to be pitied more. Wealth has its greatness but the kind and honest heart, ready to do good acts, ready to communicate to the needy is still greater. One of the old philosophers bid his scholars to consider what was the best thing to possess. One said there was nothing better than a good eye, another said a good companion is the best thing in the world, the third said a good neighbor was the best thing he could desire, the fourth said he preferred a man that could foresee events and tell what was to come; but the last boy came and said a good heart is better than them all. "True," said the master, "thou hast comprehended in two words all that the rest have said: for he that hath a good heart will be contented, and a good companion, and a good neighbor, and can easily see the thing which he should do. A good name with a true heart should be sought by every one. A good name with a good character will follow one when his mortal presence is no more. Washington with his name and character will last till the world is no more. Doing good may be done in hundreds of ways. A kind word, a pleasant smile, a look of sympathy often lifts the drooping soul into new realms of joy and happiness. Sometimes a word of counsel, a gentle admonition, a manifestation of interest in behalf of another often is received with lasting gratitude. Thus the heart of him who is willing to thus communicate to others is like a fountain which sends forth its glowing waters in many directions, it is looked upon with gladness, it is drank with everlasting remembrance. Influence to our fellowman in this way is as the flavor is to fruit, as fragrance to a flower, it does not help develop the fruit neither can the flower tell what becomes of the odor, so no man knows the limit of his influence which so constantly and perceptibly is escaping from his daily life, and is reaching out beyond his knowledge or even his remotest thought.

One drop of water helps to fill the pail; one spark of fire helps to give light to the world, also one man tho seemingly small in this great world, yet there may be a drop, a spark within you

that may be felt by the world throughout eternity. Seek to be endowed with these principles, seek to carry them out in your life and you will engrave on the tables of memory and time words which none can erase.

If you would show yourself a man in the truest sense, go not to the place where nothing is to be done, go not where memory recalls nothing of the dead but all of the living. Go not to the palaces of the rich but rather go to those whom duty demands you to see. Many people wait until an opportunity offers itself to do a great good at one time.

Dr. Johnson says, "He who waits to do a great deal of good at one time will never do any. Life is made up of little acts and it is the little deeds which if heeded in time to come which show to us the greatest work. The great Napoleon once entered a cathedral and saw twelve silver statutes. "What are these, inquired he." "The twelve apostles," was the reply. "Well," said he "take them down and melt them, and coin them into money, and let them go about doing good." Use what means you have in doing good. Your life will be happy, your reward great and your friends many. Longfellow in his most beautiful words has said:

"Lives of great men oft remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

LIGHT

J. W. BEER

I have lately received the following note and supposing that others might be in the same quandary, I will offer a little light thro the BRETHREN EVANGELIST.

Dear Brother:—I was reading your article in EVANGELIST No. 42. Can you give any light on I Cor. 14: 34, 35? Is that meant for the church of God? Is it out of order for women to speak in the churches today? And also Gal 3: 22, to the end of the chapter. Is a woman baptized into Christ the same as a man? Does he put a woman on an equality with man if she is baptized into Christ? Does Christ bless little children all alike, either male or female? I would like to have your answer personally or thro the BRETHREN EVANGELIST.

Yours Respectfully,

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In response I will be as brief as I can be to be plain. I think I can give a little light on the scriptures named. The first reads, "Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but *they are commanded* to be under obedience as also saith the law. And if they will learn anything let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church." I Cor. 14: 34, 35. "Is that meant for the church of God?" Yes, as Paul himself declares, I Cor. 1: 2, "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in

Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours."

"Is it out of order for women to speak in the churches today?" Yes and no. In the 37th verse Paul says. "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord." Yes, brother Paul, I acknowledge it, and will so receive and contend for these things; and I earnestly pray and hope that our brethren and sisters in Christ in every place will do the same

But here we meet with difficulty. Sometimes it may not be permitted unto women to speak, but at other times it may not only be a privilege, but it may be their duty to speak. It is so with men, and even so with prophets, and especially so with those speaking in unknown tongues, of which the apostle was writing at the time. "For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets." Vs. 31, 32. "How is it then, brethren, when ye come together, every one of you hath a Psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." Verse 26. This must be our constant aim, and whatever is not for edification should be avoided. "For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints." Verse 33. It seems that at Corinth there were women who, for their personal gratification were busy-bodies and raised questions, even questioning their husbands about things that were not for the edifying of the body, but led to a waste and abuse of time, to confusion and turmoil. It was not permitted for them to speak; they should keep silence in the churches; "And if they will learn anything let them ask their husbands at home." If there are any such or similar women in any other churches, they should be governed by the same rule thro all time. "Let all things be done decently and in order." Verse 40.

Now, please turn to and read Gal. 3: 22-29. One question asked is, "Is a woman baptized into Christ the same as a man?" Answer, she is. Another question, "Does he put a woman on an equality with man, if she is baptized into Christ?" Answer, he does in so far as salvation thro Christ is concerned: "For as many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's then are ye Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise." Verses 28, 29. But we